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## CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

**24-HOUR REPORT****15 MARCH 2018**

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**(U) CALIFORNIA****(U) Stockton – Two Men Severely Burned in Honey Oil Lab Explosion**

(U) Two men have been transported to UC Davis Medical Center in Sacramento with severe burns following the explosion of a butane honey oil lab at a Stockton home last night. One photo posted by the Police Department shows flames shooting from the garage of a two-story home and another shows a burned car inside an extensively damage garage. Police announced yesterday that they had arrested 23-year-old Erica Ham on suspicion of manufacturing narcotics. She is to be booked into San Joaquin Court Jail. The incident remains under investigation.

SOURCE: 14 March 2018, [Sacramento Bee](#)

**(U) Vallejo – Student Accused of Phoning in Bomb Threats to Community Colleges**

(U) Authorities arrested a 50-year -old Solano Community College student in connection with bomb threats that prompted evacuation of the college's three campuses on 12 March. Lavirrise Bynes of Vallejo was arrested yesterday on suspicion of reporting a false bomb threat and criminal threats to cause great bodily injury. Evacuation of the college's Vacaville, Vallejo and Fairfield campuses affected more than 8,000 students, 170 staff members, 350 teachers, and children who attended the Early College High School and Early Childhood Center. The calls initially were blocked, but Solano Community College Police Department and Sheriff's Office investigators were able to identify the telephone number, locate the address and telephone used, and the suspect believed to have made the threats.

SOURCE: 14 March 2018, [Sacramento Bee](#)

**(U) NATIONAL****(U) Illinois – Northwestern Gunman Report Was 'Swatting' Hoax**

(U) Chicago – The report of a gunman at Northwestern University's Evanston campus yesterday was a hoax that originated from a phone call outside of the Chicago area. Authorities did not find any evidence of a shooting at the location reported earlier in the day and the phone call to the police that came from somewhere southeast of Rockford appeared to be a "swatting" incident—where a caller attempts to illicit a SWAT response with a fake crime report. The location, an apartment off campus, where the nonexistent shooting was reported, had been vacant since before November.

SOURCE: 14 March 2018, [NBC Chicago](#)

**(U) New York – 'Malicious Actor' Tried to Hack Credit Cards Tied to the Defense Department**

(U) New York City – Citigroup said a "malicious actor" attempted to gain access to several Citi credit card accounts tied to the Department of Defense. The bank responded to CNBC's inquiry regarding an attempted credit card hack this past weekend. Citi provides financial services for the Government Travel Charge Card, or GTCC, which is used by Department of Defense personnel to pay for authorized expenses when on official travel.

SOURCE: 14 March 2018, [CNBC](#)

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**UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY****(U) INTERNATIONAL****(U) Italy – Authorities Arrest Man Suspected of Making Bombs for Possible School Attack**

(U) Viterbo – Italian police arrested a man on a tip from the FBI suspected of preparing pipe bombs and a judge's order said he had been considering an attack on a kindergarten. The man, an Italian citizen of Latvian origin, had used social media to praise Sayfullo Saipov, the suspect charged with killing eight people with a speeding truck in New York City last year and perpetrators of other attacks in the United States. The FBI told Italian police about the social media activity, a statement said. A police search of the 24-year-old's apartment in the city of Viterbo, north of Rome, found material used to assemble pipe bombs. The man was arrested on Monday and charged with possession of explosive material.

SOURCE: 15 March 2018, [Reuters](#)

**(U) Russia– Authorities Arrest 60 Organizers of ISIS Fighters Pipeline**

(U) Moscow – Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) said that it arrested dozens of members of an "ethnic criminal group" in Moscow suspected of smuggling ISIS fighters from Russia to Iraq and Syria. The FSB has reported foiling several terror plots across Russia over the past year, including attacks planned for New Year's celebrations and presidential election events this month. Russia is believed to be among the top sources of foreign terrorist fighters in war-torn Iraq and Syria. The 60 suspects detained in the Russian capital and its neighboring region are also suspected of producing counterfeit documents for Central Asian migrants in Russia.

SOURCE: 14 March 2018, [The Moscow Times](#)

**(U) United Kingdom – UK to Invest \$67 Million in New Chemical Weapons Defense Center**

(U) London – Britain will invest \$67 million in a new chemical warfare defense center at its Porton Down military research laboratory, Defence Secretary Gavin Williamson said today. Porton Down was the facility where British scientists identified the nerve agent used to attack Russian ex-spy Sergei Skripal in the city of Salisbury. Britain has accused Moscow of being responsible for the attack, which Moscow denies.

SOURCE: 15 March 2018, [Reuters](#)

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